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THE SITUATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA: PROCEDURES FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FIRM AND LASTING PEACE AND PROGRESS IN FASHIONING A REGION OF PEACE, FREEDOM, DEMOCRACY AND DEVELOPMENT

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Letter dated 9 September 1994 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Costa Rica to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Since Costa Rica is Acting as Secretary of the Central American Group, I have the honour to inform you that the Central American Presidents, at their meeting held at Guácimo de Limón, Costa Rica, from 18 to 20 August 1994, issued a joint statement on the International Conference on Population and Development which is being held at Cairo.

* A/49/150.

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The Permanent Mission of Costa Rica requests you to have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly under items 42 and 91 (c) of the provisional agenda.

(Signed) Emilia CASTRO de BARISH
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the
Permanent Mission of Costa Rica
to the United Nations
Acting Secretary of the
Central American Group

ANNEX

Statement on the International Conference on Population and Development adopted on 20 August 1994 in Guácimo de Limón, Costa Rica, by the Central American Presidents and by the Prime Minister of Belize as an observer

The family is the basic unit of society and the main agent in the transmission and development of its values. These values, including, in particular, freedom, the common good, equity and mutual respect, constitute the foundation of democratic societies and must be promoted in every possible way.

The family must be based on respect for life from its conception and on the union between a man and a woman as defined by our traditions. The State has an obligation to formulate policies of social and economic development that can ensure social mobility and equality of rights and opportunities for men and women, girls and boys, and that can promote responsible fatherhood and motherhood as requirements for the fulfilment of our commitment to enhancing the status of the family.

We are convinced that we must defend the moral and spiritual values of our societies, values solidly rooted in our culture, in order to create living conditions which can make possible the sustainable development of our peoples.

As part of the International Year of the Family proclaimed by the United Nations, and within the framework of our legislation, we reaffirm our right as sovereign nations to decide on population issues and to establish policies consistent with our principles and realities.

These views will guide the approach to be adopted by the Central American delegations to the International Conference on Population and Development which will be held in Cairo in September 1994.

José María Figueres Olsen
President
Republic of Costa Rica

Armando Calderón Sol
President
Republic of El Salvador

Ramiro de León Carpio
President
Republic of Guatemala

Carlos Roberto Reina Idiáquez
President
Republic of Honduras

Violeta Barrios de Chamorro
President
Republic of Nicaragua

Guillermo Endara Galimany
President
Republic of Panama

Observer
Manuel Esquivel
Prime Minister of Belize

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